



# UNICEF and Peacebuilding

**Hilde Frafjord Johnson**

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- **Peacebuilding is not new to UNICEF**
- **At core of GA Resolution founding UNICEF (1946)**
- **Nobel Peace Prize (1965)**

Protecting children from the impact of armed conflict is everyone's responsibility — governments, international organizations and every element of civil society. (...) For our children have a right to peace.

*Graca Machel in "Impact of Armed Conflict on Children", 1994*



This presentation will look at:

**Why**

we do peacebuilding

**How**

we do peacebuilding

**What**

we do in peacebuilding

**Where**

we can do better

Why

How

What

Where

- Children devastated by **conflict**: 2 out of 3 children dying in conflict populations
- Conflict-affected countries most behind on **MDGs**: 22 out of 34
- Post-conflict countries prone to **relapse**: need to address root causes
- We cannot hide from **conflict dynamics**
- Children benefit most from **peace**
- **Children** and **youth** have a role to play



Why

How

What

Where

## UNICEF's role in **peacebuilding** increasing

- Half of UNICEF **expenditure** goes to 19 conflict-, fragility-affected countries, an investment to reach bottom quintile
- UNICEF a **key partner** and player in peacebuilding: quality programmes, presence, operational, strong voice
- UNICEF's **unique role** validated by the SG Report on Peacebuilding (2009) – core contribution in basic social services

Why

How

What

Where

- Create new, inclusive **social compact** (WDR) – common element for success in post-conflict countries
- Application of human-rights based approach, “**do no harm**” principles to ensure conflict sensitive programming
- Peacebuilding for UNICEF: means strengthening what we do well , not doing more, but **doing better**:
  - Conflict analysis, conflict-sensitive approach
  - Capacity development
  - Partnerships

Why

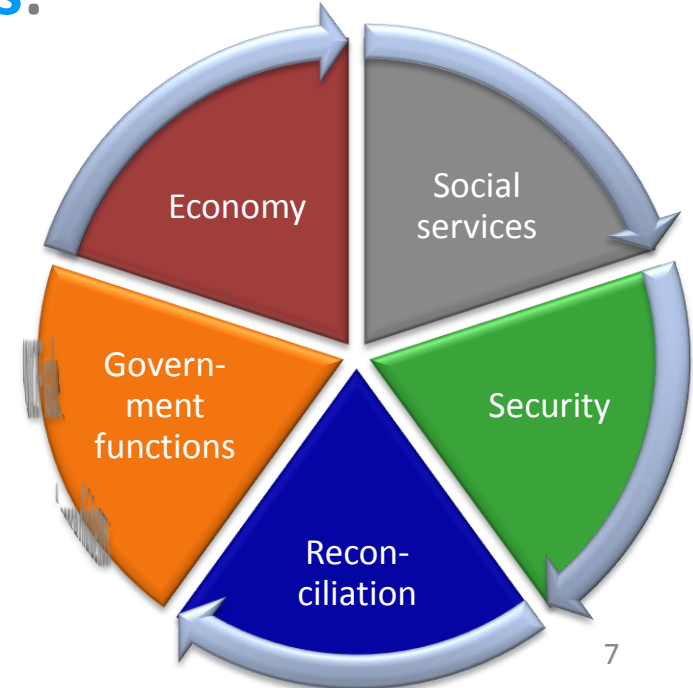
How

What

Where

- Peacebuilding is **multidimensional**: political, security, economic, social interventions addressing direct and indirect causes of conflict;
- SG Report identifies **5 peacebuilding priority areas** and UNICEF **contributes to all of them.**
- **UNICEF value added** and thrust is basic **social services** and **peace dividends**:

Child friendly schools/spaces, life skills, peace education, back-to-school, FTI in fragile contexts, immunization days



Why

How

What

Where

Our work in the **other four** peacebuilding areas:

- **Safety/Security:** Mine risk education, child combatants, police/peacekeeper training
- **Core Government Functions:** Capacity development at ministerial, subnational levels
- **Economic:** Youth, life skills, livelihoods, social protection
- **Political/Reconciliation:** Youth, peace education, advocacy



Why

How

What

Where

## Where we can **do better**:

- UNICEF programmes contributing to peacebuilding **widespread** and **varied**, but ad hoc and not systematic and strategic
- Need for more **coherence** both within UNICEF and as part of UN family
- More **consistent** and **institutionalized** approach: develop conflict analysis, programme guidance note, capacity and skills, mainstream peacebuilding, support to COs/ROs
- Continue work at **global policy level**: influence policies in favor of children

**Sustainable peace can only be built when:**

- **it is an inclusive compact**
- **peace dividends reach the most vulnerable**
- **young people have a future**

**UNICEF has a critical role to play in peacebuilding**



Thank you